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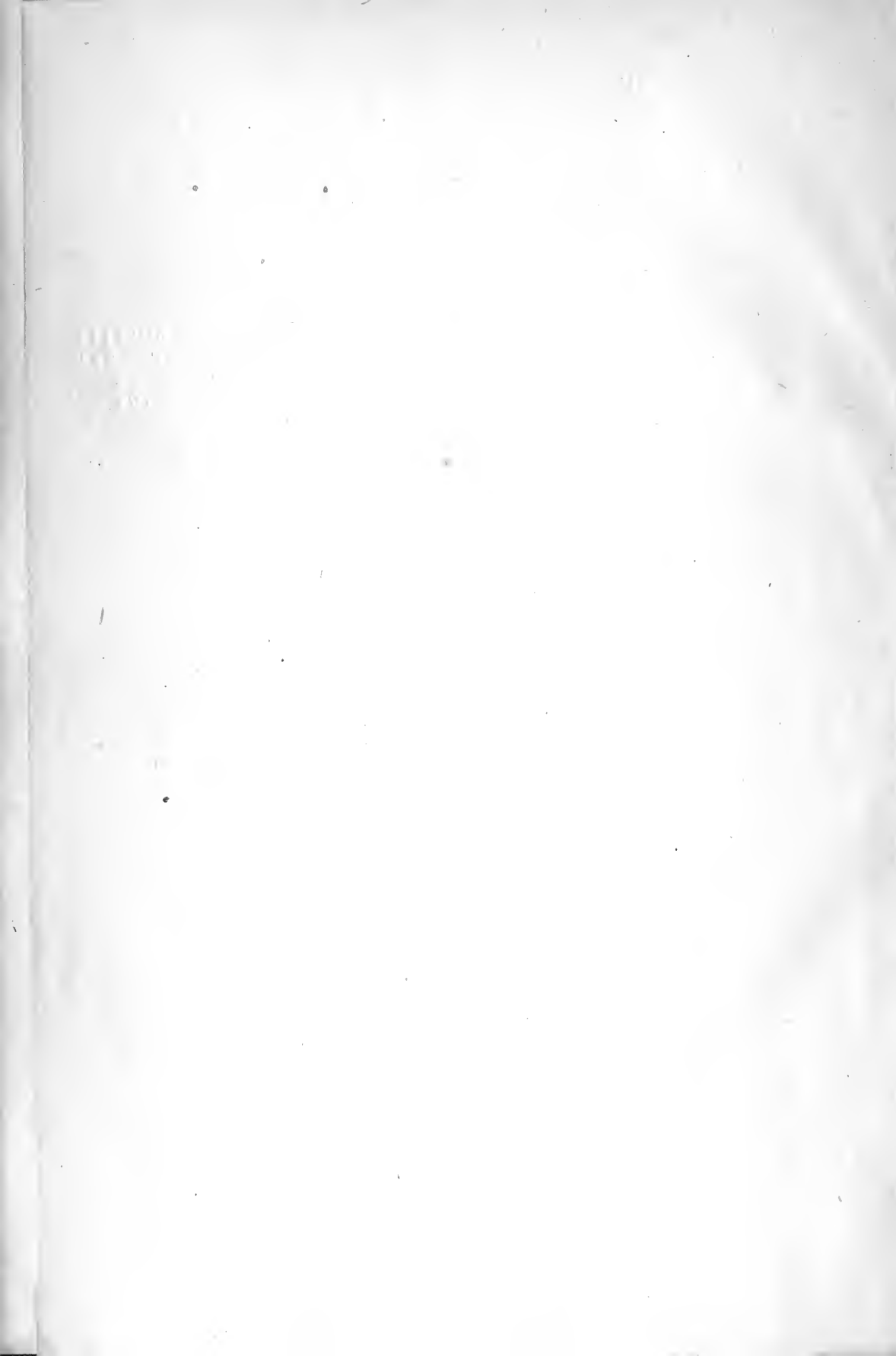
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INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE

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MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS

Volume 1

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59TH CONGRESS, }
1st Session. }

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JUN 27 1906

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MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

A CONVENTION SIGNED AT ROME ON JUNE 7, 1906, BY THE DELEGATES OF THE VARIOUS POWERS FOR THE CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE, HAVING ITS SEAT AT ROME.

JUNE 26, 1906.—Read; convention read the first time and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations and, together with the message, ordered to be printed in confidence for the use of the Senate.

To the Senate:

I transmit, for the advice and consent of the Senate to its ratification, a convention signed at Rome on June 7, 1905, by the delegates of the various powers for the creation of an international institute of agriculture, having its seat at Rome.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

The WHITE HOUSE, June 26, 1906.

The PRESIDENT:

The undersigned Secretary of State has the honor to lay before the President, with a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to its ratification, an authenticated copy of the convention for the creation of an international institute of agriculture, having its seat at Rome, which was signed by the plenipotentiaries of forty governments, and on the part of the United States by Mr. Henry White, the American ambassador at Rome, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate to its ratification and legislation by Congress to give it effect.

Respectfully submitted.

ELIHU ROOT.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

Washington, June 25, 1906.

1 In a series of meetings held at Rome, from May 29 to June 6,
2 1905, the delegates of the Powers convened at the Conference for
3 the creation of an International Institute of Agriculture, having
4 agreed upon the text of a Convention to be dated June 7, 1905,
5 and this text having been submitted for approval to the Govern-
6 ments which took part in the said conference, the undersigned,
7 having been furnished with full powers found in good and due
8 form, have agreed, in the names of their respective Governments,
9 on what follows:

10 ARTICLE 1.

11 There is hereby created a permanent international institute of
12 agriculture, having its seat at Rome.

13 ARTICLE 2.

14 The international institute of agriculture is to be a government
15 institution, in which each adhering power shall be represented
16 by delegates of its choice.

17 The institute shall be composed of a general assembly and a
18 permanent committee, the composition and duties of which are
19 defined in the ensuing articles.

20 ARTICLE 3.

21 The general assembly of the institute shall be composed of the
22 representatives of the adhering governments. Each nation, what-
23 ever be the number of its delegates, shall be entitled to a number
24 of votes in the assembly which shall be determined according to
25 the group to which it belongs, and to which reference will be
26 made in article 10.

27 ARTICLE 4.

28 The general assembly shall elect for each session from among
29 its members a president and two vice-presidents.

30 The sessions shall take place on dates fixed by the last general
31 assembly and according to a programme proposed by the perma-
32 nent committee and adopted by the adhering governments.

1. ARTICLE 5.

2 The general assembly shall exercise supreme control over the
3 international institute of agriculture.

4 It shall approve the projects prepared by the permanent com-
5 mittee regarding the organization and internal workings of the
6 institute. It shall fix the total amount of expenditures and audit
7 and approve the accounts.

8 It shall submit to the approval of the adhering governments
9 modifications of any nature involving an increase in expenditure
10 or an enlargement of the functions of the institute. It shall set
11 the date for holding the sessions. It shall prepare its regulations.

12 The presence at the general assemblies of delegates represent-
13 ing two-thirds of the adhering nations shall be required in order
14 to render the deliberations valid.

15 ARTICLE 6.

16 The executive power of the institute is intrusted to the per-
17 manent committee, which, under the direction and control of the
18 general assembly, shall carry out the decisions of the latter and
19 prepare propositions to submit to it.

20 ARTICLE 7.

21 The permanent committee shall be composed of members desig-
22 nated by the respective governments. Each adhering nation
23 shall be represented in the permanent committee by one member.
24 However, the representation of one nation may be intrusted to a
25 delegate of another adhering nation, provided that the actual
26 number of members shall not be less than fifteen.

27 The conditions of voting in the permanent committee shall be
28 the same as those indicated in article 3 for the general assemblies.

29 ARTICLE 8.

30 The permanent committee shall elect from among its members
31 for a period of three years a president and a vice-president,
32 who may be reelected. It shall prepare its internal regulations,
33 vote the budget of the institute within the limits of the funds
34 placed at its disposal by the general assembly, and appoint and
35 remove the officials and employees of its office.

36 The general secretary of the permanent committee shall act
37 as secretary of the assembly.

1

ARTICLE 9.

2 The institute, confining its operations within an international
3 sphere, shall—

4 (a) Collect, study, and publish as promptly as possible statis-
5 tical, technical, or economic information concerning farming,
6 both vegetable and animal products, the commerce in agricul-
7 tural products, and the prices prevailing in the various markets;

8 (b) Communicate to parties interested, also as promptly as
9 possible, all the information just referred to;

10 (c) Indicate the wages paid for farm work;

11 (d) Make known the new diseases of vegetables which may appear
12 in any part of the world, showing the territories infected, the prog-
13 ress of the disease, and, if possible, the remedies which are effective
14 in combating them.

15 (e) Study questions concerning agricultural cooperation, insur-
16 ance, and credit in all their aspects; collect and publish informa-
17 tion which might be useful in the various countries in the organi-
18 zation of works connected with agricultural cooperation, insur-
19 ance, and credit;

20 (f) Submit to the approval of the governments, if there is occa-
21 sion for it, measures for the protection of the common interests of
22 farmers and for the improvement of their condition, after having
23 utilized all the necessary sources of information, such as the wishes
24 expressed by international or other agricultural congresses or con-
25 gresses of sciences applied to agriculture, agricultural societies,
26 academies, learned bodies, etc.

27 All questions concerning the economic interests, the legislation,
28 and the administration of a particular nation shall be excluded
29 from the consideration of the institute.

30

ARTICLE 10.

31 The nations adhering to the institute shall be classed in five
32 groups, according to the place which each of them thinks it ought
33 to occupy.

1 The number of votes which each nation shall have and the
 2 number of units of assessment shall be established according to
 3 the following gradations:

Groups of nations.	Numbers of votes.	Units of assessment.
I.....	5	16
II.....	4	8
III.....	3	4
IV.....	2	
V.....	1	1

4 In any event the contribution due per unit of assessment shall
 5 never exceed a maximum of 2,500 francs.

6 As a temporary provision the assessment for the first two years
 7 shall not exceed 1,500 francs per unit.

8 Colonies may, at the request of the nations to which they belong,
 9 be admitted to form part of the institute on the same conditions as
 10 the independent nations.

11 ARTICLE 11.

12 The present Convention shall be ratified and the ratifications
 13 exchanged as soon as possible by depositing them with the Italian
 14 Government.

15 In faith whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed
 16 the present Convention and have hereunto affixed their seals.

17 Done at Rome the 7th of June one thousand nine hundred and
 18 five, in a single original, deposited with the Ministry of Foreign
 19 Affairs of Italy, of which certified copies shall be sent through the
 20 diplomatic channel to the contracting States.

21	For Italy:	TITTONI.
22	For Montenegro:	GENERAL MITAR MARTINOVICH.
23	For Russia:	KROUPENSKY.
24	For Argentine Republic:	BALD.° M. FONSECA.
25	For Roumania:	NICOLAS FLÉVA.
26	For Servia:	M. MILOVANOVITCH.
27	For Belgium:	L. VERHAEGHE DE NAEYER.
28	For Salvador:	J. GUSTAVO GUERRERO.
29	For Portugal:	M. DE CARVALHO E VASCONCEL- LOS.

1	For United States of Mex- ico:	G. A. ESTEVA.
2	For Luxemburg:	L. VERHAEGHE DE NAEYER.
3	For Switzerland:	J. B. PIODA.
4	For Persia:	N. MALCOLM.
5	For Japan:	T. OHYAMA.
6	For Ecuador:	J. T. MERA.
7	For Bulgaria:	D. MINTCHOVITCH.
8	For Denmark:	CTE MOLTKE.
9	For Spain:	DUC DE ARCOS.
10	For France:	CAMILLE BARRÈRE.
11	For Sweden:	BILDT.
12	For The Netherlands:	JONKHEER VAN DER GOES.
13	For Greece:	CHRIST. MIZZOPOULOS.
14	For Uruguay:	JEAN CUESTAS.
15	For Germany:	A. MONTS.
16	For Cuba:	CARLOS DE PEDROSO.
17	For Austria-Hungary:	H. LÜTZOW.
18	For Norway:	CARL LÖVENSKIÖLD.
19	For Egypt:	AZIZ IZZET.
20	For Great Britain:	EDWIN H. EGERTON.
21	For Guatemala:	THOMAS SEGARINI.
22	For Ethiopia:	GIUSEPPI CUBONI.
23	For Nicaragua:	JEAN GIORDANO DUC DE ORATINO.
24	For United States of America:	HENRY WHITE.
25	For Brazil:	BARROS MOREIRA.
26	For Costa Rica:	RAFAEL MONTEALEGRE.
27	For Chile:	VICTOR GREZ.
28	For Peru:	ANDRÉS A. CACERES.
29	For China:	HOUANG KAO.
30	For Paraguay:	F. S. BENUCCI.
31	For Turkey:	M. RÉCHID.

WASHINGTON, MAY 21, 1906.

HON. HENRY CABOT LODGE, (*Member Committee on Foreign Relations*),
United States Senate, Washington.

SIR:

At your request of to-day I herewith present the following outline of the aims and purposes of the International Institute of Agriculture.

The chief purpose of the International Institute of Agriculture is to remove the obstacles which now impede the operation of the law of supply and demand. This will be accomplished by the gathering, summarizing and disseminating information on the world's supply of the staples of agriculture, said information to be timely, available in form, and to be composed mainly of (a) the stock on hand, and (b) the condition of the growing crops.

While it is admitted that timely world's summaries of the stock on hand, and of the condition of the growing crops, form the basis of the world's price, it must also be admitted that faulty information on this head must result in unnecessary fluctuations.

Unnecessary fluctuations in the world's prices of the staples of agriculture must not alone work injuriously on the capital and labor of the farm, but also work injuriously on the capital and labor of the factory, for these staples are the raw material of the manufacturer.

It must be further admitted that so long as there are a considerable number of important agricultural nations at the present time which keep no tally of the stock on hand or of the condition of their growing crops it must, therefore, necessarily render the world's summary defective to a degree which causes unnecessary fluctuations in the world's price.

Nor would it remedy matters were the correct world's summary obtained and disseminated by any one nation; for were such a nation an exporter its statements would be controverted by the buying nation, and were it a buying nation its statements would be controverted by the exporting nation. It, therefore, necessarily follows that the information should be gathered and disseminated by an organization representing all the nations, which would then be received as authoritative by all the world. This then would do for the things of exchange what gold does for the medium of exchange. It would steady the price by lessening the opportunities of the fluctuations. And it is this which it is proposed shall be done by the International Institute of Agriculture.

The International Institute of Agriculture is now an assured fact. A sufficient number of nations have now ratified the Protocol, and this has given warrant to H. M. the King of Italy for his command to begin the building of the palace for the Institute, on the grounds of the Villa Borghese, and to have all in readiness in the Spring of 1907.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS MATTER TO THE UNITED STATES.

There are several reasons why the United States should ratify the signing of the Protocol. Among them are the following:

First. While the United States Government unquestionably has the most perfected system of obtaining information in the United States, it must, under

present conditions, depend upon the less perfected systems of other countries for an essential part of its data toward the world's summary. How faulty that summary must be, especially when it is considered that many important nations have no data of this kind at all, must be obvious. It is, therefore, clear, that the United States, as a member of the Institute, will only then be in a position to obtain the necessary data and in authoritative form.

Second. While it is clear that H. M. the King of Italy is quite anxious to have the United States ratify the Protocol and become a member of the Institute, it is quite manifest to those who have observed the matter closely that the great landed interests in Europe are very desirous that the United States do not become a part of the Institute. With the United States absent, the Institute is almost sure to become a secret organization, and as such the European nations will have the advantage of obtaining the information freely furnished by the United States, and this, together with the information gathered by the Institute, would give to the European nations every advantage over the United States.

Your high official standing in the Government of the United States gives you the position to place the ratification of the Protocol in the avenues of efficient action, and I feel no hesitancy in believing that in calling this matter to your attention it will find speedy action, and of that character which will dispose of it in the highest interests of the United States.

In conclusion, permit me to observe that if the Protocol is to be ratified at all, the time to do so is during this session, so that when the Institute opens its doors the United States may be represented right from the start, in order that it may be able to help shape matters so as to properly place the United States on that working footing which its exalted position among the First Powers will give it the right to hold in the deliberations and actions of the Institute, and which would be the easier to obtain and hold when adhering to the Institute during the pioneer period.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID LUBIN.

[The Protocol was ratified by the United States Senate June 27, 1906.]

